



Los Angeles County AUDIT COMMITTEE

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April 29, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

COMMISSION REVIEW PROCESS -- SUNSET REVIEW OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING (ALL DISTRICTS AFFECTED) (3 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Extend the sunset review date for the Los Angeles County Commission on Aging to
June 30, 2006.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION:

On December 1, 1994, the Audit Committee submitted its initial report in response to your Board's instruction to review the effectiveness of County commissions, committees and task forces defined under Chapters I and IV of the Los Angeles County Committee Book. Consistent with your Board's instructions, the Audit Committee is submitting the results of the evaluation of the Los Angeles County Commission on Aging performed by the Auditor-Controller, and recommendations from the Audit Committee for further action by your Board.

The Commission keeps the Board informed of relevant issues facing older adults in Los Angeles County including preventive health and mental health, health care reform, entitlements and benefits (Medicare/Medi-Cal), nursing home reform, in-home care, and long-term care.

During this review period, Commission organized three County-wide Health Fairs where free health screenings were provided to approximately 8,400 seniors. The Commission also held five "Free to Go" transportation demonstrations to encourage seniors to use public transportation. The Commission recommended and the Board approved the following:

- The substitution of "Handicapped" signs with "Disabled" in County facilities.
- The County Health Care Governance Proposal.
- The support of elder abuse prevention legislation.

In addition, the Commission conducted surveys of geriatric services available at hospitals throughout the County. Finally, the Commission published and distributed three issues of its LINK newsletter to inform seniors of available services.

FISCAL/FINANCING IMPACT:

None

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

The Commission was established and has been continued by Board Order No. 97 of July 12, 1949 as amended, Board Order No. 17 of April 21, 1987, Ordinance No. 90-0086 effective date of July 27, 1990, and Board Order No. 11 of June 13, 1995. The Board-approved sunset review date for the Commission was June 30, 2002.

The Commission's main mission is to preserve and promote the health and general welfare of older persons living in Los Angeles County. The Commission's duties are to 1) advise the Board and the various County departments providing services to the aged; 2) encourage and assist local communities and groups in Los Angeles County to plan for and develop services for older persons; 3) provide a general education program designed to create self-sufficiency among older adults; 4) increase the understanding of the problems, needs, and contributions of such persons by the community as a whole; and 5) perform such other duties as may from time to time be prescribed.

The Commission consists of 45 members, eight nominated by each Supervisor and each Supervisor or his or her designee. Each Commission member (except the Supervisors and their designees) receives \$25 for attending each meeting. During the last three years, all required meetings were held with an average attendance of 17 members per meeting. There are typically five to ten vacancies at any one time.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):

Extending the sunset review date for the Commission will allow this body to continue to preserve and promote the health and general welfare of the older persons living in Los Angeles County.

In the coming years, the Commission will emphasize planning for the future growth in the senior population, particularly in the areas of employment and training for "baby boomers" such as:

- Continue the annual Older American Recognition Day awards to honor 100 outstanding older residents selected by various County municipalities for their continuing contributions to their communities.
- Continue planning and participating in the multicultural and older women's conferences.
- Continue transportation demonstrations, with production of videos to be

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distributed to seniors in the County.

- Consider sponsoring the County-wide Senior Multicultural Expo.

Respectfully submitted,



Clinton Tatum
Chairperson

CT: ml: kw

c: Chief Administrative Officer
Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
Director of Community and Senior Services
Los Angeles County Commission on Aging